

Armed Forces Building
Six North Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-35
C1795

The permanent location of the Talbot County Court House in Easton and completion of the existing building in 1794 guaranteed the survival of the town of Easton and stimulated commerce and government. Soon Washington Street was lined with rows of brick buildings which provided for housing and business. The Armed Forces Building is an example of the row house form most commonly constructed: two-and-a-half stories high with a gable roof and broad end chimneys; dormers light the upper floor. Generally, three bays wide, the structures had a side hall plan and Flemish bond facade. One of a group of three surviving Federal structures, the building has suffered many alterations.

The delicate woodwork of the third floor and the gouge work of the cornice attest to its former elegance. The present store front hides a building which was probably similiar to the Perrin-Smith House in its window and door treatment and detailing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

T 35

2160354211

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hopkins House

AND/OR COMMON

Armed Forces Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

#6 North Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Anastasia Metaxis

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

2609 Higbee Road

CITY, TOWN

Adelphi

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21783

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 274

Folio #: 170

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Easton Survey

DATE

August 29, 1967

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building stands on the east side of Washington Street across from the Talbot County Court House Square. It is the southern building in a row of three Federal type buildings and is adjacent to Atkinson's store (T-402), a Victorian building of c. 1880.

The structure is brick, two and one half stories in height and three bays wide. It is two bays deep; there is an ell to the rear which is two stories in height and has a gable roof. A modern store front with a shingle-covered awning has replaced the original first floor facade. The Flemish bond brick facade is now painted white.

The second floor windows are evenly spaced. The sashes are replacements but the window frames appear to be original. They are joined with wooden pegs and trimmed with a beaded edge. The quarter round backband molding also appears to be the original. The stone sills are about three inches in height and project slightly from the brick wall. The flat arches of each window opening are of gauged brick. Louvered shutters once flanked these windows.

The roof, now covered with asphalt shingles, terminates in brick curtains which rise above each gable end bearing wall. At the cornice line, these curtains are treated with carved stone blocks which resemble the profile of the cornice. The cornice appears to be the original; it has a line of decorative gouge work, possibly fluting, on the crownmold. The cornice is very similar to that on #119 North Washington Street (T-24) which is better preserved.

Two gable dormers face Washington Street. Their roofs have a rather shallow pitch. Reeded pilasters flank the windows. The window frames are trimmed with a bead and hold 6/6 sashes. There is a cornice and return with cyma recta molding.

Between this building and #8 North Washington Street (T-36) is a covered walkway, similar to that which remains between the Perrin-Smith House, #119 North Washington (T-24) and #113-115 North Washington Street (T-23). It was covered with barrel vaults which formerly carried the weight of the chimneys of the two buildings. It has now been covered over and enclosed.

No early architectural elements can be seen on the first two floors which are paneled and carpeted and used as offices. The unused third floor, however, is unchanged. The door trim is a fine one of composite moldings. Four early doors remain in place; they each have six raised and beveled panels. Baseboards and plaster stops on the dormer cheeks are beaded, as is the window trim. Floors remaining on the third floor are random yellow pine. Fireplaces and chimneys once in place on the north wall have been removed.

The stair was originally in the south east corner; it had plain balusters but no other details can be determined. This stair position indicates that the original main entrance would probably have been in the southern bay.

The foundation and basement walls are of rough-cut granite. The ell to the rear was probably contemporary with the main portion of the building; it has been extended in this century. There were cellar entrances from Washington Street and from the alley to the rear; both are now closed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES C 1795 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Lambert Hopkins

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of this building is in its architecture. Built in the 1790's, it is one of the remaining Federal style buildings which were constructed along Washington Street soon after the present Talbot County Court House was built in 1794. The decision to locate this "Little Capitol", as Talbot County Court House was called at the time, in Easton no doubt generated a great deal of activity; stores, work shops, and houses were needed. Public records refer to the "dwelling houses and stores" constructed along Washington Street and this two and a half story brick building possibly was one of them.

The probable builder, Lambert Hopkins, purchased this property in 1785. In the Federal tax assessment of 1798 he is listed as owning and living in a dwelling house which may be this one. It remained a dwelling until at least 1818 when his daughter, Elizabeth Vickers lived there. Little else is known, either of the Mr. Hopkins, or of the use of the building until the late nineteenth century. At that time it became a drug store, a use it had until 1969 when it was remodeled into offices and received the present front.

The delicate woodwork of the third floor and the gouge work of the cornice attest to its former elegance. The present store front hides a building which was probably similar to the Perrin-Smith House in its window and door treatment and detailing.

L247/F170 This store and property was bought in 1947 by Peter Metaxas and his wife from John Grouzia, his one-half interest. It is situated opposite the Court House with a 20 foot frontage on Washington Street. In 1882 John S. Griffith took title from William N. Powell, Trustee for the estate of Hettie A. Hopkins who had inherited the building by the will of Isaac Atkinson.

L95/F171
Will Rec.
L10/F351

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIESSTATE NA

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

August 16, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
301-822-2706 President

CITY OR TOWN

Easton


STATE

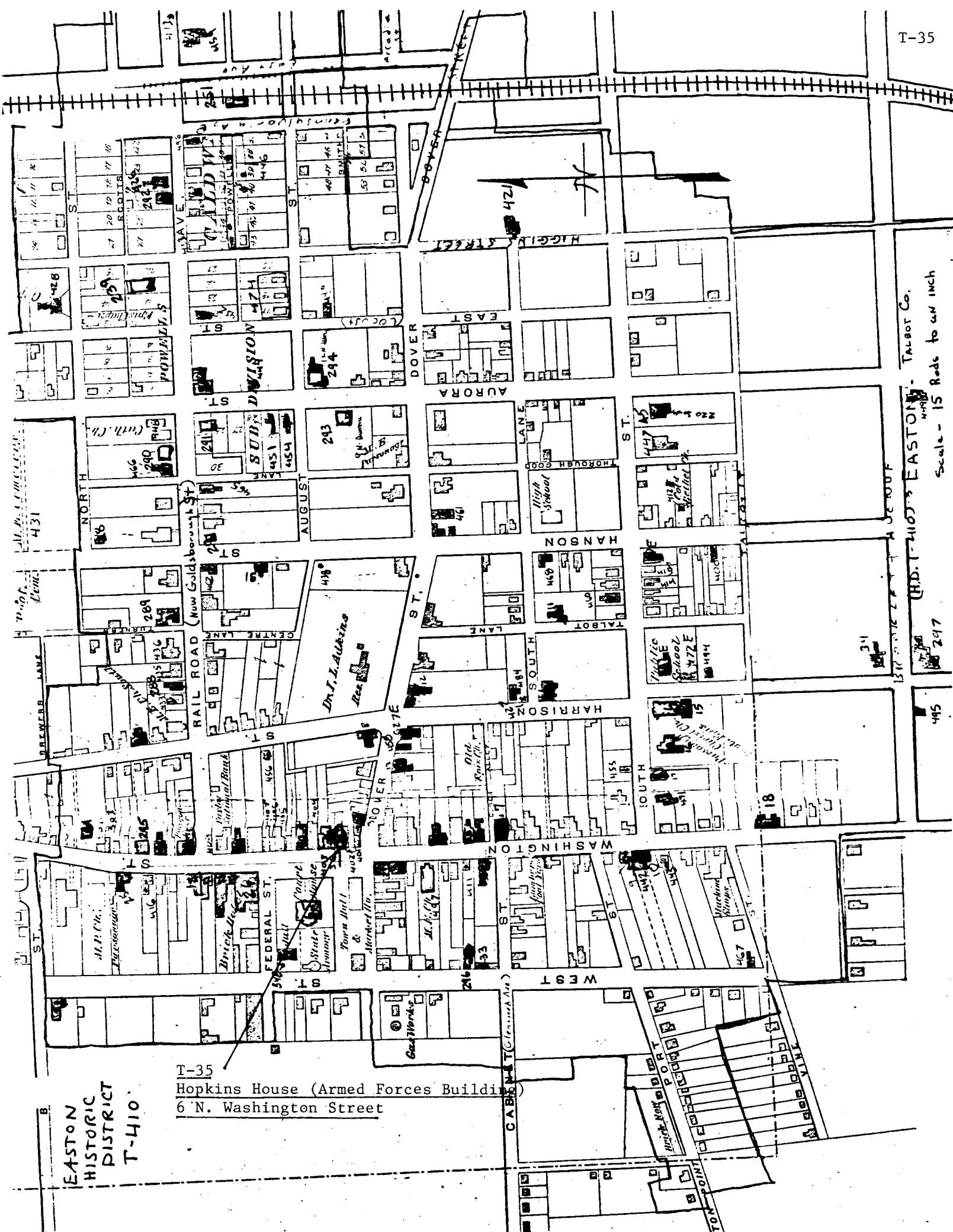
Maryland 21601

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Talbot TOWN Easton VICINITY T-35 STREET NO. Washington St.</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER ---- ORIGINAL USE Rowhouse PRESENT OWNER Rexall Drugs PRESENT USE Store WALL CONSTRUCTION Flemish Bond Brick NO. OF STORIES 2 1/2</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY</p> <p>2. NAME ----- T-35</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD c. 1820 STYLE Federal ARCHITECT BUILDER</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>	
<p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC Yes</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">This is a rather plain example of a Federal rowhouse which has been altered so much that all of its original style is gone.- The first floor is a typical 20th century shopfront. The second storey is three bays wide. The windows are 2/2 Victorian sashes which have flat brick arches. There are two peaked dormers on the roof which contain 2/2 sashes. The side walls of the building rise higher than the roof line, making a roof curtain. This seems to be a characteristic of late Federal architecture in Easton.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">At present the brick work of this structure is painted and presents a rather sad appearance. With sensitive handling it could regain some of its character and be more of an asset to the main street of Easton.</p>			
<p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior Altered</p>			
<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <p></p>		<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>	
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>		<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Paul Alan Brinkman</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD August 29 1967</p>	



T-35
Hopkins House (Armed Forces Building)
6 N. Washington Street

Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

495
297

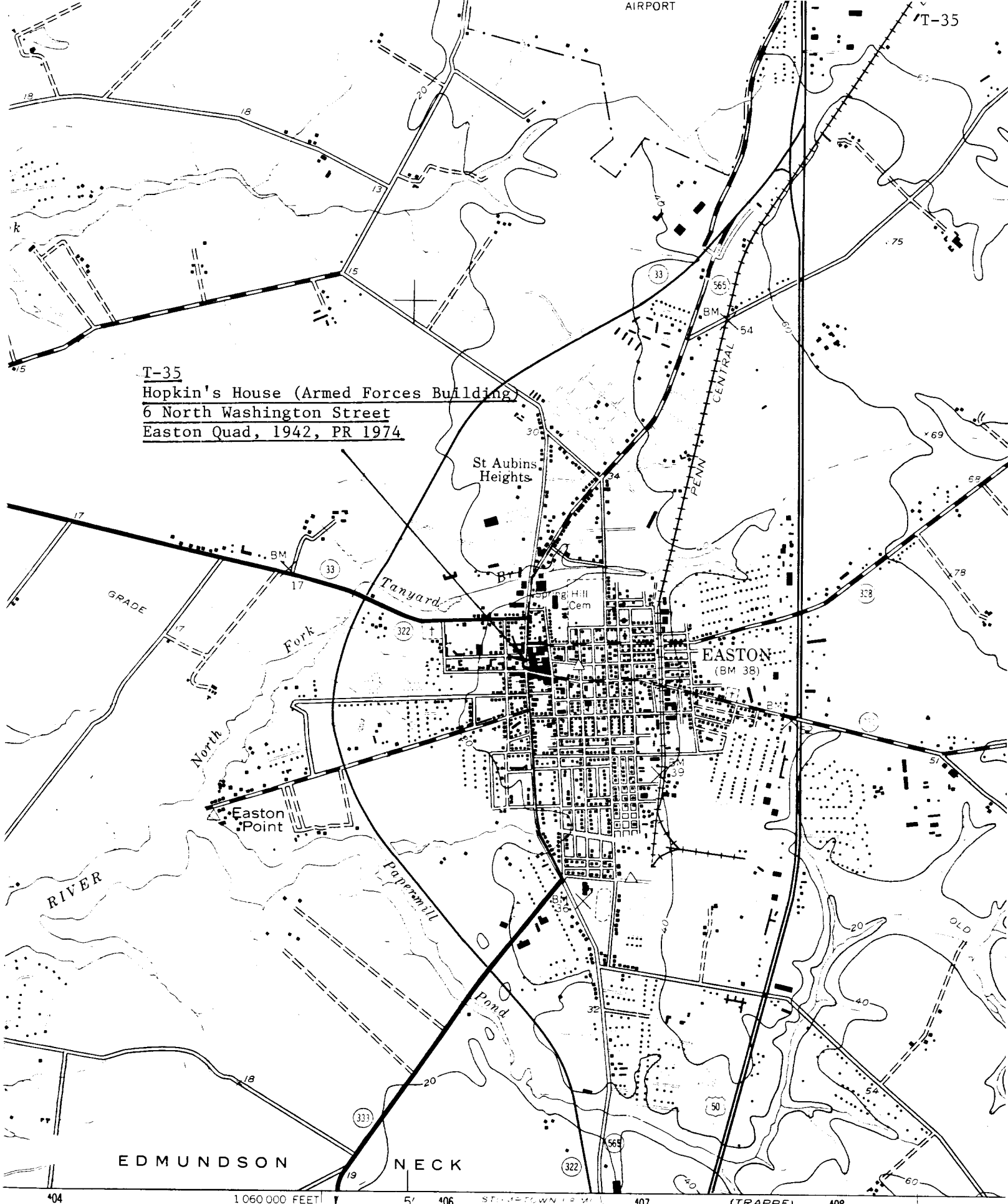
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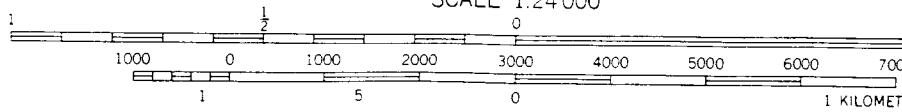
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T-35
Hopkin's House (Armed Forces Building)
6 North Washington Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974

vey
metric methods





Hopkins House (Armed Forces Bldg.)
6 N. Washington St., Easton
West Facade

35

McRim

August 1924

West Facade

Easton, Md.

6



12-2-20

90% 35

T-35

Hopkins House (Armed Forces Building)

6 N. Washington Street, Easton
West Facade



T-35

Peoples Drugs

"Before removal"
of front." (1940's)

Hopkins House (Armed Forces Building)
6 N. Washington Street, Easton
West Facade

95C